

Remarks

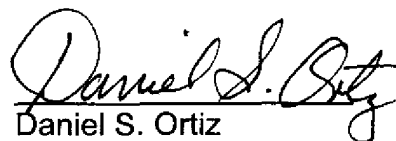
Claims 11-29 are currently pending in this application.

Original claims 1-10 were cancelled with the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the application. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner examine claims 11-29 submitted herewith.

To comply with the requirement for an election of species, Applicants herewith elect with traverse the species *Trifolium pratense* which has been entered in new claim 29. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in the application read on claim 29.

Applicants respectfully request that the election of species be reconsidered. Applicants submit that there is a common thread which connects all of the various species and genera into a single coherent group. All of the claims are directed to a chewing gum containing the various extracts optionally in an encapsulated form. The chewing gum base containing the water-soluble ingredients and the extracts are directed to a common invention that is a chewing gum containing the extracts in an optionally encapsulated form. The common thread of a chewing gum containing the extracts is a technical advantage in the art which is common to each of the species and genera of the various plants set forth in the application. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the requirement for restriction be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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